

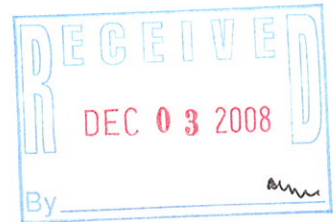
Arizona State Board for Charter Schools

Arizona State Board of Education

1700 W. Washington St., Room 164, Phoenix, AZ 85007

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www.asbcs.az.gov



PROGRAM OF INSTRUCTION AMENDMENT REQUEST

(Charter Holder Name) Avondale Learning d.b.a. Precision Academy (CTDS) 078614000

(Charter Holder Mailing Address) 7318 West Lynwood St.

(City, State) Phoenix, AZ (Zip) 85035

(Charter Representative's Name) Dr. Caroline White

(Phone Number) 623-936-8682 (Fax Number) 623-936-8559

Failure to submit all required documentation will result in the Amendment Request being returned without being processed. Faxed copies will not be accepted. Please send originals.

- ✦ Changes in instructional methodology, and/or delivery that affects the emphasis, program of instruction or mission as described in the charter

Included are the following:

- Board minutes approving the change (minutes must comply with Open Meeting Law ARS §38-431.01)
- Narrative describing the change, the rationale for the change, and the expected impact of the change on student achievement

The Arizona State Board for Charter Schools and Avondale Learning d.b.a. Precision Academy (Charter Holder), herein agree to amend the terms of the charter contract as follows:

FROM: To graduate from Precision Academy, students must accumulate a total of 25 credits.

TO: To graduate from Precision Academy, students must accumulate a total of 24 credits.

In witness whereof, Charter Holder has signed this contract amendment as of this 19th day of November, 2008, and the State Board for Charter Schools has signed this contract amendment as of this ____ day of ____, 200__, to take effect at such time as it is signed by both parties.

Caroline White
Charter Representative Signature

Representative Signature for the Arizona State Board for Charter Schools

GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS EFFECTIVE MAY 2010
FOR AVONDALE LEARNING

4 credits English
4 credits math
4 credits science
4 credits social studies
2 credits second language
1 credit technology
1 credit college prep leadership
1 credit music
1 credit fine arts
1 credit elective
.5 credit music appreciation
.5 credit career & life success

Avondale Learning dba Precision Academy
7318 W Lynwood Street
Phoenix, AZ 85035
623-936-8682

Precision Academy
Board of Directors Meeting
November 19, 2008
7318 W Lynwood Street
Phoenix, AZ 85035

1. In attendance: John White, Capri Landi, Caroline White, Michael Wheat.
2. Minutes from the October 31, 2008 meeting were approved unanimously with Landi making the motion and C. White making the second.
3. The lease of the building at 7318 W Lynwood Street will be month-to-month starting November 2008 and going through May 2009. Approval was unanimous with C. White making the motion and Landi making the second.
4. Action on personnel December bonuses was tabled.
5. The board approved sending to the Arizona State Charter Board an amendment request to require 24 credits for graduation effective as of May 2010. This would decrease the number of required credits from 25 to 24. Making the motion was C. White, with Landi making the second, all in favor.

(The board discussed that students would be required to take every opportunity given to pass the AIMS test for augmentation purposes and that would mean that the COHORT of the student would be used to determine exactly what "every opportunity" means. Second semester sophomores take the AIMS for the first time. Then, in the next two years, each semester that COHORT of the student tests in attempts to pass. Therefore, regardless of credits earned, students not passing the test each semester would be required to take the test **FIVE TIMES** in an attempt to augment their AIMS scores. Twenty-four credits is the minimum, not the maximum, number of credits a student may earn.)

6. Adjourn. Landi made the motion, C. White the second, all in favor.

Avondale Learning

Program of Instruction Amendment Request

The Avondale Learning School Board approved a graduation requirement change November 19, 2008, requiring twenty-four (24) credits for graduation, effective May 2010. Currently, the number of credits required is twenty-five (25).

Over the years, many students have transferred to the school in their sophomore, junior, and senior years. Many of these students are behind on their credits and come to our school because word has reached them that Avondale Learning is a highly-structured organization, one where the students will be monitored closely and worked with daily, thereby increasing their chances of succeeding. What we have found, though, is that since neighborhood traditional public schools as well as charter high schools require up to no more than twenty-two credits for graduation, our requirement of twenty-five has served as a de-motivator.

We want our students to stretch themselves academically and exceed the state-required number of credits, but at the same time, we do not want students to feel defeated before they have begun. The last thing that we want is for students to drop out of high school because they imagine that they will be well into their twenties before they earn their diploma. Given the low number of credits many students transfer in to our school, twenty-five credits seems to be a little excessive. By lowering the requirement by one credit, twenty-four will still call for students to ask more of themselves than the minimum, yet will be a more reasonable goal.